

Torrance Herald

Co-Publishers
KING WILLIAMS - GLENN W. PFEIL
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1962

Three Cheers and Hooray!

Torrance football fans have reason to be jubilant today—they have two championship teams to cheer.

With a stunning 20 to 0 victory over a vaunted Hawthorne team Friday night, the North High Saxons completed their drive for the Bay League pennant with only one scratch on the record to mar their victory. Redondo Beach tied a loss on them in the final seconds of the opening league game. They were never edged again.

Halfway across town, boosters of the Torrance High Tartars had equal reason to cheer Friday night as the Tartars won a 20 to 7 finale from the Lawndale team to close out their Pioneer League season without a defeat.

It's a rare treat for Torrance football fans to have a championship team to salute, and it's a double treat to have two of them.

As a matter of fact, it might even be worth a pair of "Permaplaques" from the City Council. They've been handed out for less.

It's Time to Modernize

Analysis of full meaning of the election will continue for some time; but one thing was obvious from the moment the polls closed. California must modernize the mechanics of its voting and vote counting techniques.

It was days before complete results—even unofficial—were available in the state's three most populous counties. By contrast, in San Francisco, San Mateo and San Luis Obispo counties, the results were known within hours. All three latter counties use voting machines.

Reports from the voting machine counties indicated another value of the equipment. With an almost overwhelming number of issues and candidates to consider, the average voter was faced with a considerable task—not only in deciding who and what to vote for but in the sheer physical problem of recording his decisions. Evidence indicates strongly that where voting machines were used the time consumed by each voter was generally much less than in those areas where bulky paper ballots had to be marked in cramped quarters.

California is soon going to be the most populous state in the union, and it is going to keep on growing. It long since has become one of the giants of the national political scene. It is high time we bring the mechanics of expressing our political choices up to modern technological standards.

Opinions of Others

Prices are high and they might go higher, but the best financial advice is to save some of your money for the day when prices will be lower.—Wells (Nev.) Progress.

For your information, the federal government is the largest electric power producer in the country, the largest insurer, the largest lender, the largest holder of grazing land, and the largest holder of timberland, largest owner of grain, largest warehouse operator, largest ship owner, and the largest truck fleet operator.—Benton (Mo.) Democrat.

James Dorais

Parents Elect Rafferty To Upset Political Push

In many ways, the most remarkable and meaningful election result in California was the victory of Dr. Max Rafferty over Dr. Ralph Richardson for state superintendent of public instruction.

Although the office is non-partisan, strong efforts were made to identify Rafferty, a Republican, and Richardson, a Democrat, with their respective party tickets. The effort was particularly noticeable in the case of Richardson, who, as a former aide to Governor Brown, received the governor's blessing and the unprecedented endorsement of the Brown-appointed State Board of Education. Labor's COPE mailings and literature, urging the election of Democratic candidates only, included the endorsement of Richardson.

Disturbingly, the Rafferty victory was accomplished in

strong Democratic sweep, large numbers of Democrats placed their convictions on educational policy over political partisanship to make Rafferty's victory possible.

More clearly than most of the political contests the Rafferty-Richardson race furnished the voters with a definite choice on an issue that was important to them. The Rafferty election was a victory for the legion of parents who over many years have become convinced that the excesses of progressive education and emphasis on life adjustment that have been official policy of the professional education hierarchy in California have inflicted needless and tragic hardship on an entire generation of children.

Obviously, in light of the

Morning Report:

I have been reading all the new rules being put out in Washington about news and it's a tough job. I don't want to give any aid to the enemy. But I don't want to give any comfort to friendly officeholders either.

The Defense Department was the first to put out restrictions and that was only right. Then the State Department quickly followed. I'll bet right now the fellows down at Health, Education & Welfare are busy looking for secrets they can keep quiet, too.

Actually, that's one department that's already far ahead of the game. Mum's the word on what goes on in health and education, as any kid can plainly see.

Abe Mellinkoff

Pawn Good For A Few More Moves



Moscow Is Talking About...

Installment Debts

MOSCOW — Moscow store managers now admit life is the same the world over—that as far as installment buying goes there is always a black sheep.

Installment buying was introduced here—Moscow was the pilot scheme town—just three years ago. It came in with a fanfare of propaganda that the system was introduced at the request of the people—the workers.

It was stressed at the time, and has been since, that in the West, and particularly in the United States, installment buying "lined the pockets of the finance corporations."

The official propagandists said Western-style installment buying meant that many people were encouraged to buy things they could not afford and as a result got "enmeshed in debt and were even ruined."

This was not going to happen here.

Soviet installment buying was designed to "create very favorable conditions for buying durable consumer goods." And it was going to be organized on different lines.

To start with, the Muscovite became the owner of the goods as soon as he put his pen to the installment agreement. Even if he failed to pay on time no one had the right to take the goods back.

The scheme also specified that no one would be allowed to take on installment buying commitments in any year that amounted to more than four months' pay.

The scheme was introduced at a time when Soviet planners found that consumers were becoming choosy and unwilling to gobble up goods that happened to reach the store shelves.

Unwanted merchandise began piling up in warehouses and storerooms, demonstra-

ting that volume increases in Soviet consumer goods production no longer resulted in automatically increased sales.

Installment buying came in. The list was select and has remained so.

The scheme started off on the right foot with safeguards against those who might smell out a good racket.

Moscow shops demanded that the potential customer file a certificate from the management of the place where he worked giving his wages over the last three months.

The deposit ranged between 20 and 25 per cent. There were equal installments over six to 12 months. With no "finance corporations" involved, the interest was 1 per cent for repayments over six months and 2 per cent over a year.

The scheme had its attractions for Muscovites. It allowed them to buy things immediately they would not normally have been able to afford without skimping on the necessities of life.

But now "serious troubles" have arisen. More than 30,000 customers are behind on their payments.

According to the Soviet press, officials in factories and offices are the root cause of the trouble. They are issuing certificates to people about to change jobs—who cannot afford the installments.

Are Muscovites becoming "more and more enmeshed in debt" or just forgetful? On this point the Soviet press is silent.



ROYCE BRIER

Coffee Prices Go Down: Commie Stock Goes Up!

You may have been pleased to have coffee drop 10 to 12 cents a pound recently. This is a retail reduction of around 15 per cent, and probably the wholesale reduction was a little less. Anyway, it's a \$5 annual savings to the American housewife, \$10 to heavy consumers.

But the other side of the story is not so cheery.

Seventy per cent of American coffee comes from Brazil. We are Brazil's biggest buyer, and the drop in your supermarket will be substantially reflected in Europe, and wherever Brazil coffee goes. Moreover, it must be matched in Colombian and Central American export prices.

The Brazilian coffee crop (60 per cent of all export) has an annual dollar value of about \$800 million.

Apply a 12-14 per cent re-

duction, and the loss to Brazil in export value runs over \$100 million. This is more than the annual foreign aid to Brazil in recent years and approaches the \$131 million we pledged in April in an effort to put Pernambuco, the impoverished northeastern state, on its feet.

The whole northeast is a center of communism—and hunger. The current Atlas magazine, in "Trouble in Brazil," quotes a liberal newspaper as saying Pernambuco is a setup for Communist seizure. Miguel Arrais, the Communist mayor of Pernambuco City, recently won election for state governor. Senhor Arrais's municipal staff runs from deep pink to red, and a top Brazilian Red has an office in the city hall.

In the election, other left-

A Bookman's Notebook

Concern for Tomorrow Occupies U. S. Novelists

William Hogan

Suddenly we have a rash of novels based on international tensions and the possibility of disaster through mishap, stupidity or routine human error somewhere along the line in our technological or Government structures. The Brudick-Wheeler novel "Fail-Safe" is the most recent example.

Later this month Walker & Co. will publish "Purple-6," by the British novelist Henry Brinton. The term "Purple-6" is a top-secret code warning which means that the first enemy thermonuclear missile is expected to strike in six minutes—the time in which to activate the awesome machinery of retaliation.

This modern "scare-fiction" probably dates back to Nevil Shute's "On the Beach," which studied the possibility of survival after an all-out nuclear war.

that body exerts over the Defense Department. . . . Indeed, the military elite is clearly in a position to assume actual political command over the U. S. striking force."

Events of recent weeks have brought the civil-military re-

lationship under closer scrutiny and more Americans may be considering the problem. Probable or not, Knebel and Bailey paint it as indeed possible. Their study of the possibilities is well reasoned and well told.

Seven Days in May, by Fletcher Knebel and Charles W. Bailey, Jr., Harper, 341 pp., \$4.95.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"My daughter is flying to Germany to join her husband next month. She has two small children. Can you give her any helpful hints?"

Call the airline. Tell them there are two small children flying with the mother. If they are flying tourist, ask for front seats behind the bulkhead. In jets, these are the seats with the most leg room.

Most planes are equipped with a baby bed. It snaps into the wall in these forward seats. (They don't always have these beds on the plane, though. So don't absolutely depend on it.)

The same is true of infant food. The airlines are supposed to have a supply. But often that particular plane may not have it. So carry your own. They do have the heating equipment for warming food.

Even though you have called the airline, check again at the airport to be sure you have those front seats. The communication doesn't always get through.

"How much will it cost a young couple in the ski country in Austria?"

You should be able to get a hotel with meals, ski-lift tickets and a little night entertainment (a glass of wine and music)—for \$10 a day for two.

The 17-day excursion fare offered by the airlines is the cheapest of any time of year. If you can make a party of 10, you can get it for a lot less.

Try to go before January. Hotel rates are lower. January on is the "high season" and they charge for it.

"Is there a limit to baggage on Pacific cruise ships?" All ships give you almost unlimited baggage allowance. You may have to let your trunks go to the hold. But the shipping line will give you tags to put on them so that they will be stowed where you can get at them during the voyage.

"I read that you can send \$10 gifts from overseas without paying duty. How many can you send?"

You can send as many as you like. But only one each day to each person. That is, you can send a \$10 (or under) gift to one person one day and another the next day and so on. But not two to that person on the same day.

United States Customs Service has a free pamphlet, "Helpful Hints on Customs." If you live in a port of entry city, write the Collector of Customs—it's in the phone book under United States Government section. From other cities, write U. S. Customs Service, Washington, D. C. It's good advice.

"Is it cold in Mexico in January? Do we need coats?" It can be plenty cold in Mexico City. With snow on the passes. I take an overcoat and sweater. However, if it gets too cold, Cuernavaca is only an hour downhill. That's always summer.

Usually, you will find Mexico City warm enough daytimes in January. And a little brisk when the sun goes down.

Stan Delaplane finds it impossible to answer all of his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to the Torrance HERALD, Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By FRED NEHER



"Don't say 'poor girl' so loud... She may hear you."